AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of replacement drawings include changes to block 426 of Figure 4A.

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9, 14, and 15 are pending in this application. Claim 17 has been canceled to expedite prosecution of this application. Claim 14 has been amended to fix a typographical error in the claim.

The applicant's representatives wish to thank Examiner Rutz for the indication of allowable subject matter and for the courtesy extended during the telephonic interview held on January 27, 2009. During the interview, the parties discussed the objection to the drawings and agreed to the amendments presented in this Response. If the Examiner believes that any additional information regarding the interview is necessary, he is encouraged to let the undersigned representative know.

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). As discussed during the interview, Figure 4A has been amended satisfy the concerns of the Examiner, and therefore the applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Rejections Under Section 102

Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Armangau et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,792,518). Claim 17 has been canceled to expedite prosecution of this application, and therefore this rejection is moot.

Conclusion

In lieu of the foregoing, the claims pending and the application patentably define over the art. A Notice of Allowance is, therefore, respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned representative at (206) 359-3090.

Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 606928008US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 28, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Smith

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